

## EXHIBIT 23

**Subject:** Court Today  
**From:** Tom Bittner <tbittner@schulte-law.com>  
**Date:** 04/08/2023 01:33  
**To:** Arnaud Paris <aparis@sysmicfilms.com>

Dear Arnaud:

This morning we appeared in court remotely. I had previously been appearing remotely. You had not been doing that, although both you and Heidi have made remote appearances previously in this case. The court first addressed the motions (in both cases) for you to be allowed to appear remotely. After hearing from you and from counsel, the court decided that it would not allow you to appear remotely and you were directed to leave the proceedings. After you left, the court asked what was the next matter of business. I told the court that it should address the motion for a mistrial. I argued to the court that it was improper for the judge to hear that motion because the misconduct that was the topic of the motion was caused by the judge himself. I told the court that while the trial judge is normally vested with the authority to decide a motion for new trial, those situations contemplate that the misconduct was caused by a litigant or attorney or juror—not by the judge. The court disagreed with me and ruled on the motion and denied the request for a new trial. At that point, the court told me that since your remote appearance was not allowed, that I could not participate in the hearing either. The court told me that I could watch, but I could not interject, ask questions, make objections etc. I told the court that I believed it was error to not allow an attorney to defend his client even if the client was not present. The court disagreed. So I have not been able to further participate in the proceedings other than to watch. I think this is a highly irregular ruling from the court.

You have a copy of my motion for a mistrial wherein I outline the comments and conduct of the trial judge.

Tom



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